In March, the College and community gathered to celebrate the start of construction on Centennial Plaza, an $80 million educational and arts complex located at Market Street and University Avenue in downtown Riverside. Highlights of the official ceremonies for both the Henry W. Coil, Sr. and Alice Edna Coil School for the Arts and the Riverside City College Culinary Arts Academy and Office of the Chancellor buildings included a performance by the RCC Jazz Ensemble, refreshments provided by Culinary students, and tours of the adjacent Center for Social Justice and Civil Liberties, the third component of the Plaza.

“We were so pleased that Henry W. Coil, Jr. and his brother John, and Linda Wong Huang and Julie Wong Duncan were able to participate in the ceremony. Henry’s legacy gift of $5 million to name the School for the Arts in honor of his parents, and the Wong family’s leadership gift, exemplify the incredible support for education that exists in our community,” noted RCCD Foundation Director Amy Cardullo.

Speaking on behalf of the five Wong siblings, Linda Huang praised her parents for ensuring that higher education always remained a priority, adding that this location holds special meaning for her family. “The RCC Culinary Arts Academy is being built on the former location of their family’s popular Chungking Restaurant, where they literally grew up ‘doing their homework every night together in the restaurant kitchen.’ Together, the Wong children have provided a gift to the RCCD Foundation to name the rooftop kitchen at the Academy in their honor.

For information about naming opportunities at RCCD facilities, please contact the RCCD Foundation office at (951) 222-8626.
President’s Message

This issue of the Journal highlights several examples of ways in which the RCCD Foundation supports district-wide initiatives, as well as specific projects at Moreno Valley, Norco and Riverside City colleges. This support is possible only through the generosity of a diverse group of individuals who share a commitment to education and access, and who choose to contribute their time and their resources. We are fortunate to receive support from hundreds of friends throughout the region. These friends contribute outright support, name the RCCD Foundation in their estate plan, or often partner with the Foundation in supporting existing partnerships and building new ones. Many of these partnerships occur with community organizations and through corporate and foundation gifts and grants. Our students and our community are the ultimate beneficiaries of this generosity.

For me, this is what makes RCCD Foundation such a special organization, and why I am so proud to have served as President this year.

Providing scholarship support, recognizing student success, honoring distinguished alumni, and enhancing community partnerships. These are the daily activities that contribute to the success of the RCCD Foundation. Thank you for joining in this very special mission.

Sincerely,

Raul A. Aballi
President
Remembering Bill

In January, the RCCD Foundation lost a special friend, Bill McGaugh, who passed away at the age of 92. You might remember reading about Bill and his late wife Beverly in past issues of the Journal. Their generosity over the years has been remarkable, and thanks to their careful planning, their legacy will benefit future students in perpetuity.

Bill was a college student when the sudden death of his father interrupted his studies and left him with the responsibility of supporting his widowed mother and three younger siblings. After serving in WWII, he enjoyed a successful career as a business owner and real estate broker in Riverside. Bill’s extensive volunteer leadership included the Riverside Humane Society, Wesley United Methodist Church, and the Riverside Optimist Club, where he had been active for decades and was still serving as a Board member at the time of his passing.

As long-time Riversiders, Bill and Beverly understood the pivotal role that RCCD plays in the community and, in particular, the RCC Nursing program. They were quite generous over the years in building a fund to support nursing students, and both enjoyed attending RCCD Foundation events, always keeping abreast of the latest happenings throughout the District. Bill was also fond of the Starting Blocks program, providing personal support and encouraging the partnership of his Optimist Club.

Bill and Beverly’s generosity also included a tremendous legacy established through the Foundation. The McGaugh Charitable Remainder Trust will provide future programmatic and scholarship support for nursing, as will a life insurance policy naming the Foundation as a beneficiary.

The RCC Quadrangle had a special meaning for Bill and Beverly. It was the spot where Beverly would wait for Bill when he took classes at RCC. In 2008, RCCD was honored to name a room in the Quadrangle in their honor, and both Bill and Beverly were able to attend the naming ceremony.

We will miss Bill’s smile and his quiet generosity. We are most fortunate that his legacy will continue.

RCCD Foundation
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District Happenings . . .

At Moreno Valley College, the RCCD Foundation provided support for two breakfast events: the January MLK “I Have a Dream,” which provided scholarships to winners of an essay contest; and the Cesar Chavez “Si Se Puede,” which recognized students for their themed artwork. The Moreno Valley Ballet Folklorico provided entertainment at the Si Se Puede event.

Wells Fargo Bank presented a check for $50,000 to support the RCCD-affiliated Tri-Tech Small Business Development Center.

In April, the Riverside Aquatics Association held a lap-a-thon and contributed $1,000 to the Starting Blocks learn-to-swim program.

RCC Alumna Oanh Bui displays her photo at the Friends of RCCD Forensics Art Auction held at Eagle Glen Golf Club in Corona. The event raised more than $15,000 for K-12 and college speech and debate activities.

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In April, the sold-out RCC Tiger Backers Golf Tournament was held at Victoria Club, raising more than $17,000 for RCC Athletics.

May's nursing scholarship celebration was the first of five scholarship events held throughout the District. Nearly $600,000 will be awarded to students at Moreno Valley, Norco and Riverside City colleges.

Virginia McKee Leone, Raleigh Aballi, Chris Carlson and Ray Hicks react to a great putt!

Art Alcarez, Melinda Miles and Nikki Bontzoumet ready the golfer T-shirts and goodie bags.

The RCCD Foundation was well represented (and well dressed): Amy Cardullo, Joan Roberts, Jean Easum and Maureen Lyons.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Please mark your calendars

June 16
RCCD Foundation Annual Meeting

October 16
Riverside City College Athletic Hall of Fame Awards

District Happenings . . .
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